

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Koichi NISHIGAKI et al.

Serial No.: New

Filing Date: April 25, 2001

For: METHODS OF IDENTIFYING ORGANISM BASED ON ITS
GENOTYPE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 3, 4, 6 and 7 as follows:

3. (amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said identification of an organism is the species identification or homology identification of an organism.

4. (amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein in step 1, a raw material labeled with a fluorescent marker is used for said random PCR to amplify DNA fragments with a fluorescent marker and a fluorescence labeled DNA is used as the standard DNA, and in step 3, said extraction from the identification dots is carried out using a image processing using the fluorescent markers carried by the DNAs.

6. (amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the identification dots which are obtained in step 3 are expressed by the coordinates of the temperature axis and the mobility axis in the case of temperature gradient gel electrophoresis (TGGE), and by the coordinates of the denaturant concentration axis and the mobility axis in the case of denaturant gradient gel electrophoresis (DGGE).

7. (amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said organism is a microorganism.

REMARKS

The foregoing Preliminary Amendment is requested in order to delete the multiple dependent claims and avoid paying the multiple dependent claims fee.

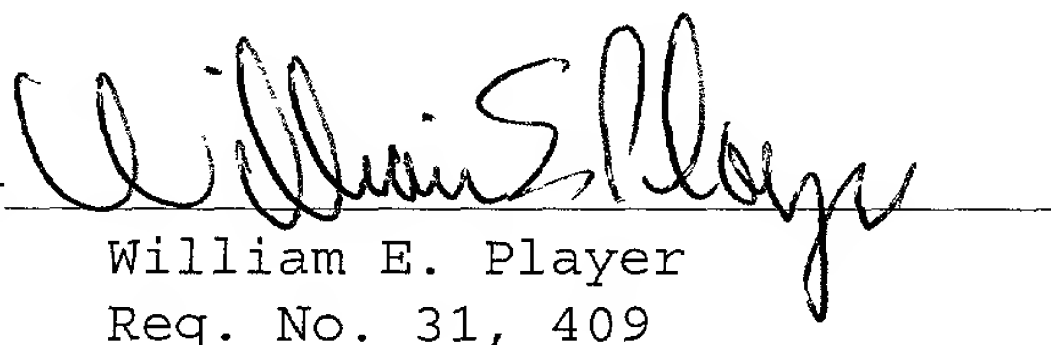
Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

Early action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

3. (amended) A method according to claim 1 [or 2], wherein said identification of an organism is the species identification or homology identification of an organism.

4. (amended) A method according to claim 1 [any of claims 1 to 3], wherein in step 1, a raw material labeled with a fluorescent marker is used for said random PCR to amplify DNA fragments with a fluorescent marker and a fluorescence labeled DNA is used as the standard DNA, and in step 3, said extraction from the identification dots is carried out using a image processing using the fluorescent markers carried by the DNAs.

6. (amended) A method according to claim 1 [any of claims 1 to 5], wherein the identification dots which are obtained in step 3 are expressed by the coordinates of the temperature axis and the mobility axis in the case of temperature gradient gel electrophoresis (TGGE), and by the coordinates of the denaturant concentration axis and the mobility axis in the case of denaturant gradient gel electrophoresis (DGGE).

7. (amended) A method according to claim 1 [any claims 1 to 6], wherein said organism is a microorganism.